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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Yoshihisa TSUKADA, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1752

Appl. No.: 10/058,656

Examiner: CHEA, THORL

Filed: January 30, 2002

For: HEAT-DEVELOPABLE IMAGE RECORDING MATERIAL

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I, Yuki Aoki, do declare and state as follows:

I graduated from Nihon University, Department of Science and Engineering and Faculty of Engineering Chemistry in March of 2001.

I have been employed by Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd., since April of 2001.

I was engaged in chromatography measurement at the Ashigara Laboratories of said Company from 2001 to present.

The following experimentation was conducted by me or under my supervision.

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EXPERIMENTATION

2.5 g of latex dispersion for emulsion layer in U.S. 6,174,663 B1 (Kato) as follows was measured, adjusted to 10 g with deionized water and then subjected to ultrafiltration with 3,500 rpm at 25°C for 60 minutes. Cl^- in the filtrate was analyzed and measured by ion chromatography under the following conditions, using a calibration curve with a cation standard solution (manufactured by Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.). The result is set forth below.

Column: IonPac AS12A 4*200 mm

Eluent: 2.7 mmol Na_2CO_3 , 0.3 mmol NaHCO_3

Flow rate: 1.2 ml/min

Temperature: 30°C

Detection method: Conductivity, UV 120 nm

Latex Dispersion:

SBR latex in Kato (Emulsion layer on column 27, line 45): Cl^- = 106.8 ppm.

As see the above result, it can be apparently recognized that the emulsion layer of Kato does not satisfy the halogen ion content in the present Invention.

I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardiz the validity of the application or any patent issuing

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thereon.

Respectively submitted,

Date: April/25, 2003

Yuki Aoki
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